

REMARKS**I. General**

Claims 1-11, 13-23, and 25-27 are pending in the current application. Claims 12 and 24 have been canceled. Claims 1, 11, 13, 14, 15, 18, 23, 25, 26 and 27 have been amended. Claims 1-10 and 18-22 have been allowed. Applicant again thanks the Examiner for the indication that dependent claims 12-15 and 24-27 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

II. Claim Amendments

Claims 1 and 18 have been amended to correct typographical errors by deleting commas in their preambles. Accordingly, no new matter is presented. Moreover, these amendments do not alter the scope of the claims.

Claim 11 has been amended with the limitations of canceled claim 12. Accordingly, amended claim 11 presents originally submitted claim 12 in independent form. No new matter has been added with the amendment of claim 11 as the added language is found, at least, in original claim 12.

Claims 13 and 14 have been amended to correct their dependencies so that, as amended, each of claims 13 and 14 depends from claim 11. No new matter has been added with the amendment of claim 13 and 14.

Claim 15 has been re-written in independent form incorporating limitations of independent claim 11. No new matter has been added with the amendment of claim 15 as the added language is found, at least, in original claim 11.

Claim 23 has been amended with the limitations of canceled claim 24. Accordingly, amended claim 23 presents originally submitted claim 24 in independent form. No new matter has been added with the amendment of claim 23, as the added language is found, at least, in original claim 24.

Claims 25 and 26 have been amended to correct their dependencies so that, as amended, each of claims 25 and 16 depends from claim 23. No new matter has been added with the amendment of claim 25 and 26.

Claim 27 has been re-written in independent form incorporating limitations of independent claim 23. No new matter has been added with the amendment of claim 27 as the added language is found, at least, in original claim 23.

III. Claim Rejections

Although Applicant believes the rejected claims to be patentable over the art of record at least for the reasons set forth in the Amendment dated August 30, 2005, in order to expedite prosecution of the present application, independent claims 11 and 23 have been amended with the limitations of canceled claims 12 and 24, respectively. As previously indicated by the Examiner, claims 11 and 23, as currently amended, are patentable over the rejections of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner pass claims these claims to issue.

Dependent claims 13 and 14, as amended, depend from claim 11. Also, dependent claims 25 and 26, as amended, depend from claim 23. Thus, each of claims 13, 14, 25, and 26 is allowable over the rejections of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner pass claims 13, 14, 25, and 26 to issue.

Claims 15 and 27 have been re-written in independent form incorporating limitations of independent claims 11 and 23, respectively. As previously indicated by the Examiner, claims 15 and 27, as currently amended, are patentable over the rejections of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner pass these claims to issue.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicant believes that the pending application is in immediate condition for allowance.

Applicants has included herewith payment of fees for the independent claims added by the present Amendment. However, if there is any further amount due, please charge our

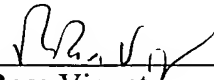
Application No.: 10/072,299

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Deposit Account No. 06-2380, under Order No. 65948/P071US/10315934 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

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